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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/710,617	07/25/2004	Jen-Yu Hsu	LITP0040USA	4616

27765 7590 07/10/2006

NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION
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EXAMINER

EL SHAMMAA, MARY A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2883

DATE MAILED: 07/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/710,617	Applicant(s) HSU ET AL.	
	Examiner Mary A. El-Shammaa	Art Unit 2883	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurebayashi et al. (US 2002/0136120 A1).

Regarding claims 1 and 3, Kurebayashi discloses in Fig. 4 a method for arranging conducting lines of a flexible cable in an optical disk drive (42), the flexible cable used between a first circuit board (51) and a second circuit board (53), the method comprising: connecting a signal of the first circuit board to a first node; providing a plurality of control chips (2) and selecting a pin from each control chip; connecting a second node of the second circuit board to the selected pins of the control chips; and connecting the first node to the second node through a conducting line of flexible cable, wherein the signal is connected to a switch circuit, the signal is at a first level when the switch circuit is on, and the signal is at a second level when the switch circuit is off (See paragraphs 0028, and 0030-0035. Also see claims 7-12).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Kurebayashi et al. (US 2002/0136120 A1).

Regarding claims 2 and 5, Kurebayashi discloses the claimed invention except for the optical disk drive being a slim-type optical disk drive. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the optical disk drive being a slim-type optical disk drive, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416. The motivation to use a slim-type optical disk drive is because slim-type optical disk drives are more compact in size and thus can be used in smaller systems.

Regarding claims 4 and 6, Kurebayashi discloses in Fig. 4 a method for arranging conducting lines of a flexible cable in an optical disk drive (42), the flexible cable used between a first circuit board (51) and a second circuit board (53), the method comprising: connecting a signal of the first circuit board to a first node; providing a plurality of control chips (2) and selecting a pin from each control chip; connecting the first node to the second node through a conducting line of flexible cable, wherein the signal is connected to a switch circuit, the signal is at a first level when the switch circuit is on, and the signal is at a second level when the switch circuit is off (See paragraphs 0028, and 0030-0035. Also see claims 7-12). Kurebayashi does not explicitly disclose disposing at least one NOT gate on the second circuit board, the input of the NOT gate being connected to the second node, and connecting the selected pins of the control chips to the second node or to the output of the NOT gate. However, Kurebayashi does

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disclose only selected information on the second circuit board being stored. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a NOT gate to serve this function, as a NOT gate only allows selected information to be stored. The motivation to use a NOT gate is they are cost effective and readily available.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary A. El-Shammaa whose telephone number is 571.272.2469. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30am-5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 571.272.2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MAE

June 19, 2006



Frank G. Font
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800